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Executive
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR DATE: 19 March 1952

file

FROM: Assistant to the Director

SUBJECT: Magazine Piece: "The China Lobby" by Charles Christian Wertenbaker (for REPORTER magazine)

1. Wertenbaker suggested I visit him while in New York and review the piece, which is scheduled for early publication. Wertenbaker text will be delivered to Philip Horton, assistant editor today or tomorrow. Horton will edit the text, which is now in its fifth draft. Wertenbaker has notified Max Ascoli, editor and publisher, that he can not devote any more time to the piece. Wertenbaker was reluctant to have me carry the text to Washington. I informed him that I would make a brief verbal report to you.

2. Piece is approximately 30,000 to 35,000 words and will be run in two installments starting in early April. Half the book in two successive issues will be devoted to the story and the REPORTER presumably is building a promotional campaign around the piece. The story has been painstakingly researched and deftly reported. It will probably create a sensation here and cause the "China Firsters" pain and embarrassment.

3. The following is a brief summary of contents:

a. Story begins with a historical run-down on the relationships that existed between Chiang Kai Shek, Madame Sun Yat Sen, T. V. Soong, and H. H. Kung. Wertenbaker concludes that this family dynasty has profited hugely from U.S. grants to China and asserts that these funds have been removed to the United States. He traces the origins of the China Lobby back to the New Deal and embroils 25X1

25X1

[redacted]

b. Wertenbaker alleges that almost unlimited funds have been placed at the disposal of the Chinese Nationalist Embassy here for use in China Lobby manipulations. He contends that Wellington Koo is one of the principal bag-men; that even such responsible Chinese as Hu Shih are involved. He alleges, moreover, that the Nationalist government pumped more than $2,000,000 into the Republican campaign in 1948.

DOCUMENT NO. 97
NO CHANGE IN CLASS ☐
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DATE 13/4/81 REVIEWER:

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c. He contends that the China Lobby as now organized is not a lobby in the usual sens of the term, but instead results from the accidental fusing of many persons of varying motives all of whom conclude that the United States must salvage the Chinese Nationalist government. He blisters Kohlberg for his role through the subtle use of direct quotations obtained in interviews and drags in Senator McCarthy together with a host of others of the Formosa group such as Henry and Clare Boothe Luce. 25X1

[redacted]

5. In view of the combustible character of these pieces, I would recommend that no senior official of CIA be implicated even to the extent of scanning the copy prior to publication. Wertenbaker has agreed not to mention to anyone the fact that I saw the piece.

SIGNED

C. B. HANSEN
Colonel, USAF

ODCI/CBH:nhh

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